DD/S 64-5581

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FILE Blog 63-1 (C)
(Highways +
Transportation) 29

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Walter N. Elder

Walt:

As you know, several days ago the Director asked me to see what arrangements could be made to get him downtown quickly in a case of real necessity when traffic is congested on the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Since then we have talked with a number of people in the National Park Service, Highway Department, etc. Any relief by means of additional roads involves construction, and the prospects for even a beginning do not appear too bright. Before too long the National Park Service, in cooperation with the State of Virginia, will probably construct an additional lane on the ramp leading from the Parkway to the Key Bridge. The National Park Service is very much opposed to construction of additional lanes on the existing Parkway. They say that providing access roads to congested metropolitan areas is not their function and that, when they do so, it merely encourages the state and local governments to avoid facing up to their responsibilities. Route 66, which will go right through Rosslyn, will eventually offer some relief, but this will not be completed for some time. It is also probable that by the time new roads are built there will be more traffic to go over them and we really won't have made much of a net gain unless and until some sort of rapid transit system is established.

We have done two things: First, we have arranged with the Chief of the Park Police in Washington for a special escort for the Director when required, and I believe that you and the Director's Security Staff have been briefed on how to arrange for this escort. The Park Police believe that this plan will work as long as wheels can turn, which may not be the case when heavy snow is on the ground.

Second, we have arranged for helicopter service between the Headquarters building and the White House. We have been assured that the helicopter can be here within about fifteen minutes after it is

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cc: Director of Logistics
Director of Security

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called. This service can be obtained in one of two ways: (a) You can call

of Logistics immediately so that traffic controls can be activated in front of the building and other necessary steps taken.

I would suggest that the Director use the helicopter service once in a while just to keep this agreement active. If we don't use it until we have an emergency, it could well be that the arrangement might break down in the meantime.

Signed

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cc: Director of Logistics
Director of Security

DD/S subjectDD/S chrono

L. K. White